

MEETING MINUTES

LOUISIANA ASSESSORS' RETIREMENT BOARD OF THE LOUISIANA ASSESSORS' ASSOCIATION

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017
1:30 P.M.**

**3060 VALLEY CREEK DRIVE, SUITE C
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA**

A meeting of the Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Board was held Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. at the Louisiana Assessors' Association Office, Suite C located at 3060 Valley Creek Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The following members were present: President Glenn Waguespack and Members Rhyn Duplechain, Richard Earl, Glenda Gaspard, Irby Gamble, Louis Hebert, Charlie Henington, Cindy Manasco, Phyllis Mendoza, Stephanie Smith, and Jimbo Stevenson. Absent was Vice President Jeff Taylor, Treasurer Wendy Curphy-Aguillard, and Members Wayne Blanchard, Tab Troxler, Representative Pearson, and Senator Peacock.

Following the roll call, prayer, Pledge of Allegiance and public comment period wherein no members of the public spoke, a motion was made to accept the minutes of the July 25, 2017 meeting by Irby Gamble, seconded by Jimbo Stevenson and passed with no objections.

A motion was entered by Charlie Henington and seconded by Richard Earl to accept the August financial report as presented by Accountant Anna Wessman. The motion passed with unanimous support.

Louis Hebert made a motion to accept the report on refunds, transfers, reciprocals, retirements, and deaths as presented by Kathy Bertrand, Retirement Benefits Coordinator. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Smith and passed with no objections.

Investment Consultant, Jon Breth, then introduced Gary Welchel and Emily Becker, both with Orleans Capital, who provided an update on their performance since inception, year-to-date, and more specifically in the third quarter of 2017.

Mr. Breth then reported on the preliminary monthly, quarter-to-date and year-to-date investment performance for the period ending September 30, 2017. Total fund return for the month was 1.33, which was over the benchmark of 1.26; for the quarter was 3.52, which was over the benchmark of 3.50; and for fiscal year-to-date was 12.53 which was over the benchmark of 11.44.

Mr. Breth also stated that he would like to move funds within the State Street portfolio into the Co-Mingled MSCI All Country World ex US to reduce the management fees. Irby Gamble made a motion to accept this proposal, which was seconded by Rhyn Duplechain. The motion passed with no objections.

Mr. Breth also proposed bringing in two new money managers to further diversify our portfolio. Mr. Breth suggested reducing core fixed income to 17.50% and non-core fixed income to 10.0%, and from other funds create a multi-asset class investment to be known as Other Assets. Mr. Breth will contact Blackrock and Westwood and request they each make a presentation to the board at the quarterly meetings in January 2018.

A motion was made by Charlie Henington and seconded by Jimbo Stevenson to accept the report by Mr. Breth. The motion passed with no objections.

The next item on the agenda was presented by the attorney for the retirement system, Denise Akers. Ms. Akers discussed the need to pursue legislation to amend the language in La R.S. 11:241 for COLA determinations so that the system's fiscal year is referenced instead of a June 30th date. Ms. Akers informed the Board that the Parochial Retirement System would join our system in pursuing this legislation. Ms. Annie Smith from the House Retirement Committee agreed to draft the language for the Bill. A motion to pursue this legislation was entered by Louis Hebert, and seconded by Glenda Gaspard. The motion passed with no objections.

Actuary Gary Curran addressed the Board to discuss changing the valuation interest rate to 6.5%. After discussing the pros and cons, a motion was made by Glenda Gaspard and seconded by Phyllis Mendoza to make this change, if this change did not raise the employer contribution rate above 8%. Mr. Curran stated he will run the numbers with a 6.5% valuation as discussed with the employer rate contingency.

Agenda item 12 was to be a presentation by Connie Stevens with Great West to discuss the 401(a) Self-Directed investment program for the Louisiana Assessors Retirement Fund. Since all required paperwork had not been submitted for final approval prior to the meeting, this agenda item was tabled until a later date.

A motion entered by Charlie Henington and seconded by Jimbo Stevenson passed to accept the 2018 meeting dates for the Retirement Board as January 23, April 24, July 24, and October 23.

A motion to accept the odd districts nominations to serve on the Retirement Board of Directors for 2-year terms beginning in 2018 was submitted by Rhyn Duplechain, seconded by Jimbo Stevenson and passed with no objections:

- District 1 - Tab Troxler
- District 3 - Rhyn Duplechain
- District 5 - Rick Ducote, Jr.
- District 7 - Charlie Henington

Nominees for Employee representatives accepted to serve on the Retirement Board were Glenda Gaspard & Louis Hebert;

Nominees for Retiree representatives to serve on the Retirement Board were Irby Gamble & Phyllis Mendoza.

Director Menou made a brief presentation regarding the status of revenue sharing funds being held at the State Treasurer's office possibly still due to our system from 2004. Additional research is being conducted by Rob Reiger with Adams & Reese law firm to make the final determination.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was entered by Rhyn Duplechain, seconded by Charlie Henington and the meeting was adjourned.